

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to replace “JP-A-2000-23339” with “JP-A-2000-233439” to correct a typographical error.

Claims 1-16 are pending. Claims 17-32 are new claims. The amendments are supported by the disclosure at page 32, lines 13-16, of the specification and claims 1-16 as filed.

Claim rejections – 35 U.S.C. §102(b) or 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over JP-09-302115, or WO 99/10165. Applicants also traverse the rejections of claims 1-9 as anticipated or rendered obvious by JP 63-066233.

The polyaramide layer disclosed in each of the references is not made by the process recited in claim 1 and there is no evidence that the disclosed polyaramide layers have the heat-resistant property of the films of claims 1-16. Thus, claims 1-16 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by JP-09-302115, or WO 99/10165. Similarly, claims 1-9 are not anticipated or rendered obvious by JP 63-066233. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned regarding any questions concerning this amendment. In the event that the filing of this paper is deemed not timely, applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is

authorized to debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 the petition fee and any other fees that may be required in relation to this paper.

Respectfully submitted,

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